ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2024

Presented By

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT

Proudly providing water from an ancient source...well into the future

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

PWS ID#: CA3610025

Introduction

We are pleased to share this year's annual water quality report, also called a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). This report is published every year by July 1, and it shows a snapshot of last year's water quality, including all tests done between January 1 and December 31.

In this report, you'll find out where your water comes from, what is in it, and how it matches up with standards set by regulatory agencies. Our goal is to provide safe and reliable drinking water. We work hard to ensure and protect water quality. We want you to know about these efforts because informed customers are the best partners.

Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment has been completed for our system. The purpose of the assessment is to determine the susceptibility of each drinking water source to potential contaminant sources. The report includes background information and a relative susceptibility rating of higher, moderate, or lower. It is important to understand that a higher susceptibility rating does not imply poor water quality, only the system's potential to become contaminated within the assessment area. The SWRCB completed two drinking water source assessments for Joshua Basin Water District on August 24, 2001. These assessments examined the district's Wells 10 and 14 and determined these sources are most vulnerable to high-density residential septic systems.

The district completed a drinking water source assessment for Well 15 in August 2007. This assessment determined that Well 15 is most vulnerable to low-density septic systems.

A drinking water source assessment for Well 17 completed in August 2007 determined that Well 17 is most vulnerable to National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/Water Discharge Regulation-permitted discharges.

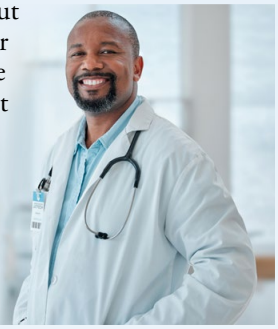
A drinking water source assessment for Well 16 completed in September 2010 determined that Well 16 is most vulnerable to high- and low-density septic systems and airport maintenance and fueling areas.

A copy of this report is available by contacting the district at (760) 366-8438. A summary of the assessment may be requested by contacting the district's sanitary engineer from the SWRCB at (909) 383-5184 or (909) 383-4745 (fax). A copy of each source's complete assessment may be viewed at the Joshua Basin Water District office or the State Water Board San Bernardino office, Government Center, Fourth Floor, 464 West Fourth Street, Suite 437.

Community Participation

You are invited to attend our board of directors, committee, or Citizens Advisory Council meetings. You can attend these meetings at 61750 Chollita Road, Joshua Tree. To learn more about these meetings or our district, please visit jbwd.com.

Important Health Information



Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or epa.gov/safewater.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Our water comes from wells owned by the district. These wells draw water from two underground sources called aquifers. The two aquifers that supply our water include the Joshua Tree and Copper Mountain groundwater basins. The district actively replenishes aquifers when water is available from the State Water Project, supplied through the Mojave Water Agency. This helps to ensure future sustainability.

Questions?

For more information about this report, or if you have any questions about your drinking water, please call Sarah Johnson, General Manager, at (760) 366-8438.

Substances That Could Be in Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

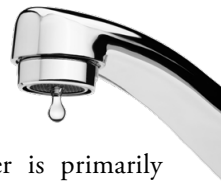
Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Lead in Home Plumbing



Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Joshua Basin Water District is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure it is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling does not remove lead from water.

Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead and wish to have your water tested, contact Joshua Basin Water District at (760) 366-8438 or customerservice@jbwd.com. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. Please contact the District at (760) 366-8438 if you would like more information about the lead service inventory or lead sampling that has been completed.

Test Results

We carefully monitor our water for many different substances on a strict schedule. The water we provide has to meet certain standards. This report publishes substances within the time frame required by those standards. Detecting a substance in the water does not mean it is unsafe to drink. Our goal is to keep all detected substances within allowable levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Arsenic (ppb)	2023	10	0.004	2.2	ND–4.9	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chlorine (ppm)	2024	[4.0 (as Cl2)]	[4 (as Cl2)]	0.91	0.79–1.01	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chromium, Total (ppb)	2023	50	(100)	24	12–37	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	2.0	1	0.66	0.46–0.83	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2024	15	(0)	3.38	2.46–4.30	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2024	10[1]	20	22.4	13–38	No	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [as nitrate] (ppm)	2024	45	45	3.22	2.1–6.3	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2024	80	NA	15.15	4.3–26	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2022	1.3	0.3	0.061	0.013–0.092	0/20	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2022	15	0.2	ND	ND–1.2	0/20	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2023	500	NS	13	7–17	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	2023	15	NS	ND	NA	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Manganese (ppb)	2023	50	NS	ND	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	2023	1,600	NS	335	240–490	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	500	NS	40.8	9.2–120	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2023	1,000	NS	162	130–180	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2023	5	NS	0.30	ND–3.2	No	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2023	5.0	NS	ND	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES [2]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2024	2.75	1.1–4.4	NA
Bromoform (ppb)	2024	6.25	1.5–11	NA
Chloroform (ppb)	2024	0.75	ND–1.5	NA
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2024	5.4	1.7–9.1	NA
Sodium (ppm)	2023	45.25	37–60	NA

[1] Hexavalent chromium was detected at levels exceeding the MCL. While a water system of our size is not considered in violation of the hexavalent chromium MCL until after October 1, 2027, we are working to address this exceedance and comply with the MCL. Specifically, we are researching the best available water treatment technologies to remove hexavalent chromium from our water sources.

[2] Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the U.S. EPA and SWRCB determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Regulatory Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. EPA.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

PHG (Public Health Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

µmho/cm (micromhos per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

BY THE NUMBERS

3.4 BILLION

The daily volume in gallons of water recycled and reused in the U.S., reducing waste and conserving resources.

28%

The percent reduction in per capita water use in the U.S. since 1980, thanks to efficiency improvements.

99.99%

The percent effectiveness of modern water treatment plants in removing harmful bacteria and viruses from drinking water.

1.2 MILLION

The length in miles of drinking water pipes in the U.S. delivering clean water to millions of homes and businesses daily.

1.7 MILLION

The number of jobs supported by the U.S. water sector.